

# State Missions Season of Prayer

September 14-17, 1986

## Margaret Lackey Offering for State Missions

**\$515,000**

### Allocations

New Missions	\$130,000
Central Hills	137,600
Camp Garaywa	140,000
Disaster Relief	35,000
Special Ministries	4,100
Parchman Ministry	20,000
Church Building/ Pastoral Aid	30,000
Student Work on Black Campuses	7,200
Mission Awareness (materials, visuals, etc.)	11,100

## Thai Baptists top 2,000 in 37th year with SBC

BANGKOK, Thailand (BP) — Membership among the 98 congregations associated with Southern Baptist work in Thailand has just topped the 2,000 mark.

"This might not sound like much, but considering the fact that the very first missionaries to Thailand worked for 19 years without a convert, this is something to report," said Maxine Stewart, missionary press representative to Thailand since 1976.

Growth during the 37 years of work

has come hard, and missionaries have perceived the people to be worldly-minded and resistant to the gospel. But increasing numbers are beginning to seek answers to some of life's toughest questions.

Though situated on the same Asian peninsula as Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam, Thailand has remained economically and politically stable, according to J. Murphy Terry, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's associate director for South

and Southeast Asia. Free of crisis until very recent years, the people have stayed relatively secure — not searching as much for answers as they might during times of instability.

Thai Christians are encouraged about what God has done in recent years. Influential leaders in Bangkok and less urban areas have begun to ask about Jesus Christ. Now seven home missionaries are working to reach their own people, and more are expected to be sent out before year's end.

Baptist witness to Chinese in Bangkok began in 1833. Missionaries from the Triennial Convention, forerunner of the American Baptist and Southern Baptist conventions, helped start the first Protestant church in the Far East, which later became the Maitri Chit Baptist Church. But Baptist missionaries stopped working there in 1893, returning only when the doors to China closed in 1949.

Following the thousands of Chinese

who had moved to Thailand, 13 Southern Baptist missionaries transferred from China to Thailand. The first Southern Baptist missionaries strictly for Thai work were appointed in 1952.

Today 63 career missionaries, plus six newly appointed missionaries and two in the process of transferring, are assigned to Thailand. They work with Thai Baptists in 32 organized churches and 66 home groups and preaching points.

## Bibles going to soldiers in West African nation

By Eric Miller

OUAGADOUGOU, Burkina Faso (BP) — When 20,000 Bibles go to soldiers of a socialist-communist government, something's got to happen, says missionary Al Hodges.

Soldiers are everywhere in Burkina Faso, which underwent a revolution in 1984 and is under military government rule, says Hodges, on furlough in Tennessee with his wife, Karen, and their three children.

"One day right before we left (for furlough), I saw a soldier walking down the street with one of our Bibles under his arm, plus a machine gun," Hodges recalls. "All of them have machine guns made in the U.S.S.R., and they just carry those things around all of the time."

While Hodges was getting his visa renewed, he approached a soldier at a front desk in the visa office and noticed his desk had "nothing but two books." One was "Khadafy's green

book on socialism" which was closed and pushed off to the side.

The other was the blue, hardback "Good News Bible" in French distributed by Southern Baptist missionaries. The Bible was open to Proverbs, which the soldier had been reading.

The idea to distribute Bibles to Burkinabe soldiers came about in 1984 as Hodges was riding around the capital city of Ouagadougou with John Mills, Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board director for West Africa.

Hodges, a field evangelist, told Mills he wished Christians could witness to the soldiers because the country was becoming increasingly militaristic. "Every time I went into a government office, they'd have pictures of Marx and Lenin on the walls," Hodges says. "They had inducted about 20,000 into the armed forces."

Mills suggested, "Why don't you

give the soldiers all a Bible?"

After a year of planning and negotiation, missionaries and Burkinabe Baptists got permission from the government to distribute Bibles to soldiers on military bases.

However, when government officials "saw we really were going to get the Bibles and really do it, they had some second thoughts," Hodges recalls.

Government officials said soldiers wanting Bibles could go to church and get them. So, missionaries started distributing Bibles through Baptists and other Protestant churches.

Just before leaving Burkina Faso in June, Hodges attended a church in which eight soldiers were presented Bibles during the service.

The first of the 20,000 Bibles was handed to a soldier in March. So far 5,000 have been given out. The rest will be distributed by the end of the year.

Even as the Bibles were being admitted into the country, "the very first fruits of the Bible distribution happened," Hodges notes. Matthew Masse, a Burkinabe Baptist pastor, was helping Southern Baptist missionaries get the Bibles through customs. He gave two of them to two customs officials.

Masse witnessed to the officials, showed them how to use their Bibles and led them through the plan of salvation. Both became Christians.

A note in each Bible invites readers to enroll in the Bible Way Correspondence School, and several soldiers have enrolled.

The note also suggests the reader organize a Bible study group. "In West Africa," Hodges noted, "it's not at all unusual to see someone who knows how to read gather a group of people around him who want to hear what's in the book. We can envision Bible study groups being started this way

and eventually growing into churches."

Christians are praying God will "send a real movement of his spirit into the country, and perhaps this very thing will turn the country around and head it back in a way toward the Lord," Hodges says.

Government officials "think we're trying to indoctrinate the people," he says. "If you're teaching someone there is no God and that religion is the opium of the people, then you don't want someone coming in and giving everybody a Bible."

A Burkinabe pastor helping with the Bible distribution has mentioned his part in distribution might jeopardize his position with the government and he might be thrown in prison.

Hodges asked the pastor if he was afraid. "I'm not afraid," he replied. "If I get thrown in prison, it's just for the glory of the Lord."

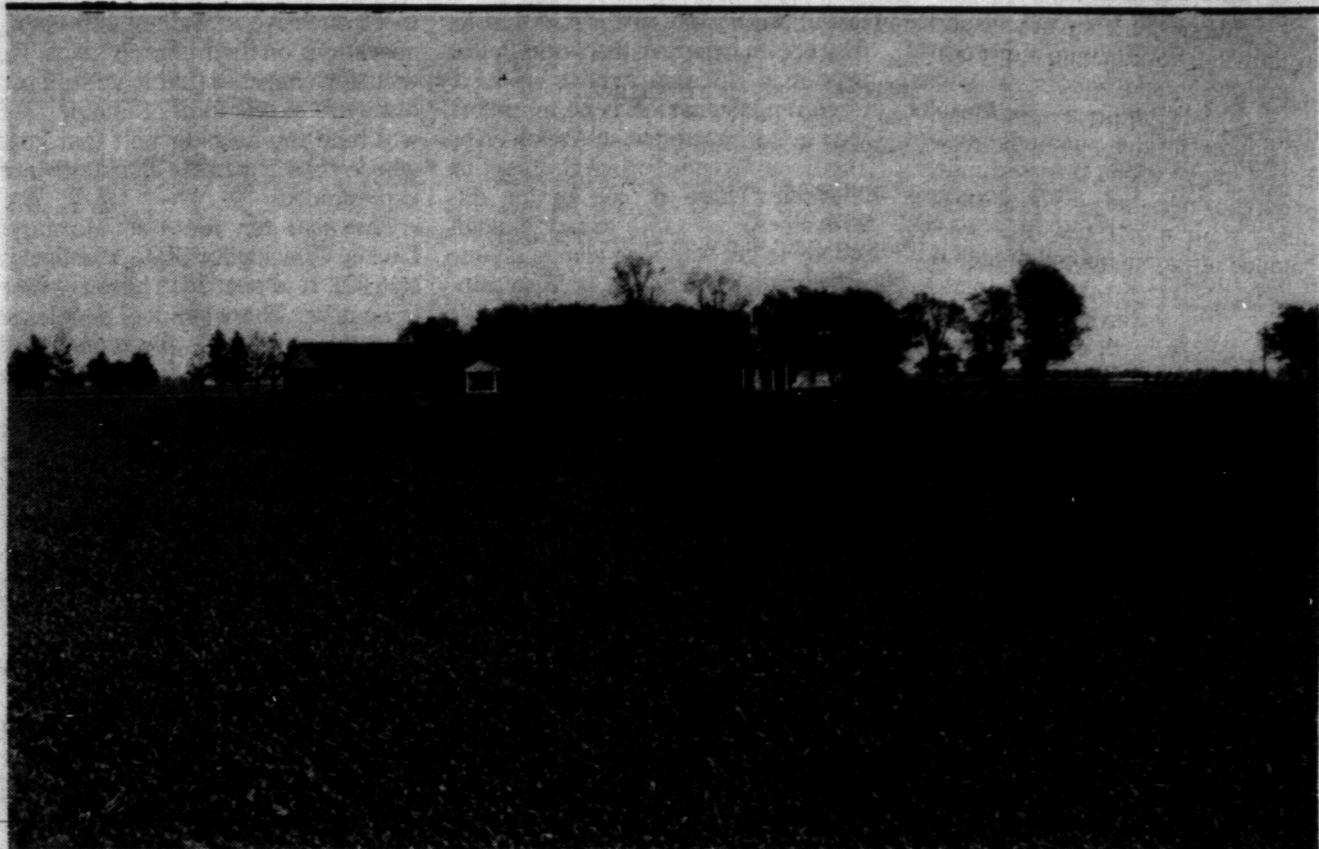
Eric Miller writes for FMB.

# The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, September 11, 1986

Published Since 1877



Morrison Chapel, Cleveland

The lines in the plowed field point to Morrison Chapel Baptist Church. The plowed field also provides the setting for the rural church just outside Cleveland, Miss. The picture was taken before planting time, and now vegetation may partly obscure the building.

Photo by Don McGregor

# Editorials . . . by Don McGregor

## “When we do, we will go”

Sunday begins the State Missions Season of Prayer and the Margaret Lackey Offering for State Missions. These two elements of support for missions work in the state are scheduled for Sept. 14 to 17.

Historically, the state missions offering is not nearly as large as the other two missions offerings; yet it is no less important.

Mississippi is supposed to be a state of churches. It is the buckle on the Bible belt. It is predominantly a Baptist state. More than 600,000 of the state's 2.5 million residents are Southern Baptists. Yet there are at least one million people in the state who don't belong to any church. That means that they don't belong to the Lord either, very likely. So we have a fertile mission field right here between the Mississippi River and Alabama and between Tennessee and the Gulf of Mexico.

It's been said before, but it bears repeating over and over again: the

lost in Mississippi are just as lost as they are anywhere in the world. A lost person in Ethiopia, where we have foreign missionaries, is no more lost than is the lost person in Aberdeen or Tupelo or Greenwood or Gulfport or Jackson. There is one major difference. We are able to pay enough money to get someone else to do our witnessing in Ethiopia. In Mississippi we must do it ourselves, but it still requires money.

A part of the state missions offering will be used to establish new churches in areas where there are none. A judicious placement of these churches will result in witnessing being done where it is not going on at this time. For the most part, these new churches will be in urban areas. Our countryside is pretty well dotted with churches. As our cities grow, there are areas without churches.

With the state missions offering we will help churches pay their pastors full-time salaries so that they can be

more effective in leading witnessing operations on their church fields. We will help churches that have suffered disasters of one kind of another. We will fund the disaster unit that goes where the natural disasters are experienced.

The goal for the 1986 Margaret Lackey Offering for State Missions is \$515,000. It is needed. There is much to be done. There are lost people all over the state, and this money will help finance ways to be in touch with them.

We need to give, and we need to go. We need to find those who are lost and witness to them. But the main agenda that we should have in any missions procedure is prayer. The season of prayer for state missions runs concurrently with the offering. We must exercise our ability to be in touch with the Lord. We must hold up before him our state missions needs.

When we do we will give, and we will go.



## What price evolution?

The separation of church and state is a major concern of Southern Baptists; and, for the most part, the inter-denominational group, Americans United for Separation of Church and State, is on target in its efforts of avoiding such entanglements.

The organization may have erred, however, in asking the Supreme Court to strike down a Louisiana law which declares that when evolution is taught in the public school classroom, creationism also will be taught.

The reason for asking for such a decision was stated as being that creationism is not a science and should not be cast in opposition to evolution, thus suggesting that evolution is a science.

It is true that scientific findings have indicated that the formation of the earth took more than six days, and took place more than 8,000-years ago, but that doesn't prove evolution to be a fact. In fact, there is no more way of proving evolution than there is of proving a creation theory.

I am not particularly in favor of teaching creation in the public school classroom. If the theory of evolution is to be taught as anything but a theory, however, then I believe that the door should be opened for suggesting the possibility of a created beginning.

My preference would be to teach what we know to be a fact and not suggest the possibilities of any kind of theory in the public school. In using the term, "theory," to describe creation, it is in relating the subject to the public school classroom. I believe in

a created world and universe. We do edge into the area of a collusion of church and state, however, when we begin to seek to make our views of creation a subject for public school consumption.

The thing is that to propound the theory of evolution is just as much religious, for it seeks to disprove a religious consideration.

I feel that neither should be taught. If evolution is to be taught, however, then I feel that creation should be presented also.

## College women outsmoke men

College women are nearly twice as likely as college men to smoke cigarettes, indicating the tobacco industry is successfully linking female smoking with glamour and success, according to a federal study.

Among college women, the daily smoking rate was 18 percent last year compared with 10 percent for men.

The study said cigarette companies stress two major themes to get women to smoke: One associates smoking with being liberated; the other hints women should smoke to stay thin.

## Guest opinion — Mississippi mission . . .

## Our colleges: leaders for the future

By Chester Swor

Some times in the past in good-natured humor and occasionally reflecting a limited view of the wide scope of training which our Baptist colleges have done with distinction, an individual would refer to our church-related colleges as "preacher factories." While our colleges have done a truly excellent work in preparing young people for church-related careers, they have done an amazing and inspiring work in preparing young people for a wide scope of post-college vocations and have prepared a host of students in pre-professional academic strength. The scope of so-called secular careers for which our

students received quality education in our Baptist colleges covers virtually all of the honorable careers known in our nation.

### Church leadership

One of the distinctive opportunities which our Baptist colleges have is that of preparing young people with pre-seminary academic strength. It gives that preparation through curriculum opportunities, student activities of religious nature, through counseling, and through personal involvement of teachers in the formulation of post-seminary plans.

During the 1985-86 session of our Baptist colleges, there were 436 young

men and women who indicated that they plan to enter the various areas of Christian ministry. In addition to that number, there are on each of the campuses a considerable number of students who are giving serious consideration to possible calls into special Christian service careers.

Our colleges seek to minister to this group of students through 17 faculty members who offer courses of instruction in 117 courses in Bible, religion, philosophy, and through 37 courses in religious education. Some of the professors have had professional experience in pastoral, church staff, and mission experiences and,

therefore, are able to teach with a helpful dimension of understanding.

### Voluntary service

Through voluntary service in nearby churches, sometimes through internships in churches and on campuses, through summer service in churches and in the BSU summer missions, and through participation in conferences, these leaders-for-the-future are encouraged to supplement class room information. Teachers in these classes are generally genuinely student-oriented and available for considerable personal counseling.

It is to be doubted that our Southern Baptist seminaries would have

\$10,000+ students in an average year if it were not for the excellent pre-seminary preparation which Baptist colleges offer, and our Mississippi Baptist colleges have made an impressive contribution to that seminary enrollment through the years.

Just as our various national service academies prepare military leadership with well-trained graduates, our Baptist colleges in Mississippi are safeguarding our state's Baptist leadership for the future.

Chester Swor is a speaker for youth groups and on college campuses nationwide.

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## Students will convene at Colonial Heights

Mississippi Baptist students from 27 campuses across the state will gather in Jackson the last weekend in September for their annual Baptist Student Union Convention.

The convention will take place Sept. 26-28 at Colonial Heights Church in Jackson with the theme "Christ's Church...Alive!!"

Program leaders include Henry Blackaby, Dean Register, William R. O'Brien, Jenny McLemore, and Sunday Company.

Blackaby, pastor of Faith Baptist Church, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, will deliver the Friday evening and Sunday morning messages. Blackaby's messages will be entitled "The Reigning Christ as Head of his Church," and "Co-Laborers with Christ in and through his Church."

Register, pastor of First Church, Gulfport, will lead a Saturday morning Bible study. Register's message will be "Your Three Toughest Temptations."

O'Brien, executive vice president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, will give the Saturday evening



O'Brien McLemore Register Blackaby

missions message. O'Brien's topic is "What in the World is God up to?"

Jenny McLemore, a musician living in Montgomery, formerly a staffer at First Church, Jackson, will be music leader for the convention, giving special concerts also.

And Sunday Company is a Christian drama troupe from Jackson which will provide theme interpretation Friday evening.

Milt Hughes of the National Student Ministries department of the Sunday School Board, will speak on "BSU's Vision for Making Disciples."

Saturday afternoon Mississippi Baptist Young Women will host a

reception for student missions with a mini-concert featuring the Sounds of Joy from Northeast Mississippi Junior College and Priority of Mississippi College.

Music during sessions will be provided by New Creation, the college ensemble of First Church, Jackson; and by the Revelation college ensemble from Temple Church, Hattiesburg.

Students may choose two from a listing of special interest conferences on Saturday morning. Topics range from "Being Single," to "Sharing an Effective Witness," to "Developing

(Continued on page 4)

## Review board to oversee Christian Index, editor

By Dan Martin and Michael Tutterow

ATLANTA (BP) — A five-member review board to oversee the "editorial policies, practices, and personnel" of the Christian Index, the newsjournal of the Georgia Baptist Convention, has been named by the Index board of directors.

The action was announced Aug. 26, after a special called meeting of the 10-member Index board and followed four months of closed-door investigation by a special study committee into charges levelled against the Index, the oldest state Baptist newspaper in the Southern Baptist Convention, and its editor, Jack U. Harwell.

Harwell, 53, who has been associated with the Index since 1957 and its editor 20 years, has been under fire since 1979. That year, a joint GBC-Index committee affirmed Harwell's freedom to discuss issues deemed "to be of interest and concern to Georgia Baptists" but instructed him to be governed by the Baptist Faith and Message statement and to "reflect the spirit and theological position of Georgia and Southern Baptists."

The statement issued following the Aug. 26 meeting reaffirms the 1979

statement but asks "that the editor conform in both the letter and the spirit of this declaration."

While the 1979 study was launched after an effort had been made to fire Harwell at the annual meeting of the Georgia convention, the current controversy boiled over in May 1986 after Harwell wrote an editorial critical of the nominations of the SBC Committee on Boards, which was chaired by Lee Roberts, a Marietta businessman.

Roberts prepared and distributed a 32-page document to the study committee detailing complaints against Harwell, including an allegation Harwell had misrepresented circulation figures for the Index, and also questioned the editor's Christian ethics, fairness, and effectiveness.

The businessman, a member of Eastside Baptist Church of Marietta, called for "replacement . . ." of Harwell, "not restrictions."

Christian Index Board Chairman George Burnett, pastor of Noonday Baptist Church of Marietta, in late May appointed a 7-member special committee "to make a serious study of the problems relating to the

editorial policies, practice, and personnel" of the Index.

Burnett said Roberts' charges, as well as other complaints, prompted the formation of the committee. "We decided to seriously evaluate the material" of the Index.

The chairman refused to link the Index controversy to the late SBC battle but noted the bulk of negative mail against Harwell and the Index originated among fundamental conservatives.

Although no one involved revealed specific charges against Harwell, the Atlanta Constitution reported Aug. 25 there were six primary issues: "That circulation failed during Harwell's editorship; that Harwell has served as a director of a potentially competing newspaper, SBC Today, an independent, Decatur-based journal that favors the moderates; that he has lost his objectivity and sides frequently with moderates; that he labels people unfairly in his editorials, making too free use of terms like fundamentalist and 'militant'; that he is not accountable to anyone; and that he has been too aggressive in helping seminary

(Continued on page 5)

## Editor and associate conclude tenth year

By Anne McWilliams

September is anniversary time for two on the Baptist Record staff — editor and associate editor. Both are celebrating tenth anniversaries with the paper.

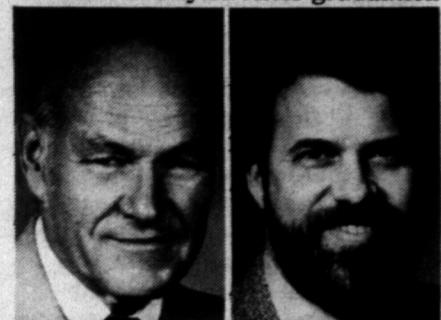
Don McGregor succeeded Joe Odle as editor of the Record on Sept. 1, 1976. Twenty months before that he had succeeded Joe Abrams as associate editor.

Tim Nicholas moved to Mississippi from Atlanta, Ga., where he was photo feature editor for the Home Mission Board, SBC. He began his duties as associate editor and as director of public relations for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board on Sept. 20, 1976.

During these ten years McGregor has served as chairman of the SBC Public Relations Advisory Committee (1979-1980) and as president of the Southern Baptist Press Association (1982). He participated in several volunteer mission trips to Argentina, and in one to Dominica. Nicholas has earned a master of arts degree in communications from the University

of Southern Mississippi and completed requirements for a doctorate in communications, except for the dissertation. For part of this study, he spent four months of sabbatical leave in Hattiesburg. The Home Mission Board published his book, *More Than Just Talk*. He has made two mission trips to Honduras.

Don McGregor, a Texas native, spent several of his childhood years at Waco while his father, a pastor and later an associational missionary, was in school at Baylor. After graduation



McGregor Nicholas  
from high school at Mertzon, he  
(Continued on page 7)

## Fire damages cottage at Children's Village

Early on Labor Day a fire was prevented from possibly injuring Baptist Children's Village residents by an alert houseparent.

The fire was discovered at about 1:40 a.m., Sept. 1 in the Quarles Cottage of the India Nunnery Campus in Jackson when the houseparent heard smoke alarms. The problem was in the large communal area of the cottage which serves as a family and dining area and the houseparent quickly closed the double doors, preventing the rapid spread of fire and smoke down the hallway to the bedrooms.

All the children, girls ranging in age from 4 to 17, were directed to safety and units of the Jackson City Fire Department were battling the blaze within five minutes of the call.

Although there was extensive damage from fire, heat, smoke and water, the basic structure of Quarles Cottage (named for the late Chester L. Quarles, secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, 1950-68) was saved.

The Jackson City Fire chief told Paul Nunnery, executive director of the Village that "had they been three minutes later the fire would have erupted in the attic and the entire

(Continued on page 5)

## August gifts: \$1,220,050

August gifts through the Cooperative Program in Mississippi totaled \$1,220,050, according to Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board which receives and distributes the funds.

This amount, added to gifts from January through July, total \$11,703,420. To reach the 1986 budget goal of \$18,550,000, Mississippi Baptist gifts through the Cooperative Pro-

gram need to average \$1,545,833.33 per month. So far in 1986, gifts have been under the pro rata amount by \$633,247.

One consideration of this situation is that August ended on a Sunday, making it impossible for churches to make their contributions to be counted toward the August amount.

Total gifts for 1986 are \$178,397 more than for the same period of 1985; a 1.5 percent increase. The 1986 budget calls for a nine percent increase over 1985's budget.

# Mississippi Baptist Convention

## 1987 Proposed Budget

SBC Causes	1986 Budget	Percent Of Total	1987 Projected	\$ Change	% Change	Percent Of Total
400 Southern Baptist Conv.						
Foreign Mission Board	3,218,796	17.35%	3,328,800	110,004	3.42%	17.52%
Home Mission Board	1,264,813	6.82%	1,307,941	43,128	3.41%	6.88%
Seminaries	1,318,905	7.11%	1,359,260	40,355	3.06%	7.15%
Radio and TV Commission	269,123	1.45%	274,626	5,503	2.04%	1.45%
Capital Needs	240,408	1.30%	299,592	59,184	24.62%	1.58%
Other	365,955	1.97%	364,781	-1,174	-0.32%	1.92%
Sub-Total	6,678,000	36.00%	6,935,000	257,000	3.85%	36.50%
351 South American Missions Co						
397 SBC Video Cassette Program	8,000	0.04%	0	-8,000	-100.00%	0.00%
399 Mission Service Corps						
Sub-Total	6,686,000	36.04%	6,935,000	249,000	3.72%	36.50%
SBC Causes Grand Total						
Institutions And Agencies						
Christian Education	3,361,247	18.12%	3,394,379	33,132	0.99%	17.87%
Ch. Ed. Capital Needs	600,000	3.23%	600,000	0	0.00%	3.16%
Unified Endowment Camp.	200,000	1.08%	200,000	0	0.00%	1.05%
MS Baptist Medical Center						
217 Education	33,000	0.18%	33,000	0	0.00%	0.17%
218 Hardship Assistance	85,000	0.46%	85,000	0	0.00%	0.45%
224 Med Ctr Capital Needs	60,000	0.32%	60,000	0	0.00%	0.32%
225 Children's Village	341,000	1.84%	360,000	19,000	5.57%	1.89%
226 Ministerial Education Bd	92,500	0.50%	132,500	40,000	43.24%	0.70%
227 Christian Action	141,760	0.76%	143,657	1,897	1.34%	0.76%
228 Baptist Foundation	135,500	0.73%	141,449	5,949	4.39%	0.74%
229 Historical Commission	32,665	0.18%	32,665	0	0.00%	0.17%
289 Ms Baptist Bi-Racial Comm.	140,160	0.76%	139,860	-300	-0.21%	0.74%
Sub-Total	5,222,832	28.16%	5,322,510	99,678	1.91%	28.01%
Board Programs						
345 Convention Bd Capital Needs	384,000	2.07%	384,000	0	0.00%	2.02%
347 Gulfshore Assembly Prog.	142,000	0.77%	142,000	0	0.00%	0.75%
349 Gulfshore Operations	128,221	0.69%	132,108	3,887	3.03%	0.70%
350 Program Director's Office	110,473	0.60%	110,473	0	0.00%	0.58%
355 Youth Night	10,000	0.05%	10,000	0	0.00%	0.05%
360 Broadcast Services	100,583	0.54%	103,776	3,193	3.17%	0.55%
361 Church Adm. Pastoral Min.	101,865	0.55%	102,829	964	0.95%	0.54%
362 Church Building Services	46,414	0.25%	47,332	918	1.98%	0.25%
363 Associational Admin.	70,526	0.38%	72,488	1,962	2.78%	0.38%
364 Woman's Missionary Union	291,375	1.57%	283,096	-8,279	-2.84%	1.49%
367 Sunday School	341,707	1.84%	344,528	2,821	0.38%	1.81%
368 Church Training	281,150	1.52%	286,206	5,056	1.80%	1.51%
369 Brotherhood	191,307	1.03%	192,591	1,284	0.67%	1.01%
370 Church Music	188,751	1.02%	189,373	622	0.33%	1.00%
371 Student Work	642,388	3.46%	679,000	36,612	5.70%	3.57%
344 Student Centers Cap. Needs	100,000	0.54%	100,000	0	0.00%	0.53%
*373 Evangelism Promotion	95,472	0.51%	97,556	2,084	2.18%	0.51%
374 Cooperative Missions	224,388	1.21%	210,088	-14,300	-6.37%	1.11%
375 Stewardship & C.P. Promo.	198,677	1.07%	181,447	-17,230	-8.67%	0.95%
376 Subsidies to Associations	118,500	0.64%	135,000	16,500	13.92%	0.71%
377 Ch/Min Relations & Annuity	152,099	0.82%	154,116	2,017	1.33%	0.81%
378 General Services	693,479	3.74%	705,053	11,574	1.67%	3.71%
380 Baptist Record	259,270	1.40%	257,866	-1,404	-0.54%	1.36%
385 Annuity Participation	640,000	3.45%	650,000	10,000	1.56%	3.42%
387 Social Security & Ins.	625,000	3.37%	625,000	0	0.00%	3.29%
Sub-Total	6,137,645	33.09%	6,195,926	58,281	0.95%	32.61%
389 Public Relations	18,561	0.10%	16,630	-1,931	-10.40%	0.09%
390 Convention & Conv. Comm.	17,500	0.09%	18,000	500	2.86%	0.09%
391 Convention Annual, Diary	30,000	0.16%	30,000	0	0.00%	0.16%
392 Convention Bd and Comm.	25,000	0.13%	25,000	0	0.00%	0.13%
393 Executive Secretary	154,574	0.83%	156,561	1,987	1.29%	0.82%
394 Business Office	159,722	0.86%	163,419	3,697	2.31%	0.86%
395 Management Info Systems	98,166	0.53%	136,954	38,788	39.51%	0.72%
State Causes — Grand Total	503,523	2.71%	546,564	43,041	8.55%	2.88%
Grand Total — All Causes	11,864,000	63.96%	12,065,000	201,000	1.69%	63.50%
	18,550,000	100.00%	19,000,000	450,000	2.43%	100.00%

\*In addition to this amount for Evangelism Promotion, the HMB is providing \$11,000 for 1987. Other departments have budgeted \$129,000 for reaching persons for Christ and the church.

### Budget And Cooperative Program Promotion Committee:

Marvin Bond, Chairman  
Robert Calvert  
James Gatewood  
Robert Hanvey  
Bartis Harper  
Jerry Mixon

Malcolm Montgomery, Jr.  
Donald O'Quin  
Larry Otis  
Jack Parsons  
Jerry Dale Patterson  
Dan Robertson  
William Grogan

Frank Morgan  
Larry Kennedy  
Donnie Stewart  
Frank Gunn, ex officio  
Eddie Hamilton, ex officio  
Earl Kelly, ex officio



The Sunday Company consists of, from left, Ken McDade, Anne Barlow, Gloria Crittenden, Don Barlow, Phil McSpanir, Lillian Puckett, and Robin McKee.

## Students will convene at Colonial Heights

(Continued from page 3)  
and Maintaining a Healthy Self Image."

Registration for the convention opens Sept. 26 at 4 p.m. with the pro-

gram underway at 7. The convention concludes at 9:15 Sunday morning.

BSU convention is sponsored by the Student Work Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Jerry Merriman, director.

## Dress for success backfires

SOLWEZI, Zambia — Shadreck Loko's new clothes almost cost him his position as missions chairman in a rural Zambian Baptist association. A farmer, Loko needs a suit only for church meetings. For years he wore the only one he owned. But he showed up at the recent annual association meeting wearing a new one.

When officer election time came, Loko and the other candidates were blindfolded and lined up with their backs to the people, so delegates could march by and drop a straw into the basket by the person they wanted to elect. Loko lost by a large margin.

After a stunned silence, one woman said, "We want Mr. Loko. We didn't know him in his new clothes." Following much laughter and a new vote, Loko and his new suit won handily.

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BR2



Leaders of Parenting by Grace interpretation meetings are from left: Harold Bergen, Baptist Sunday School Board; Dianne Warren Swaim, Hattiesburg; Jo Hollman, Jackson; Talmadge

Smith, Brookhaven; Peggy Brock, Biloxi; Oakley Hetrick, Gulfport; Mrs. Hetrick, Mrs. Randol Lindsay, Lyon, and Randol Lindsay.

## Parenting skills are enhanced in new program now available

Parenting By Grace, a biblical approach to child-rearing, was launched in July at Ridgecrest and Glorieta. Ten Mississippians took the intense, week-long training. Leaders of the seminars are from among these persons.



Lee



Johnson

Mumbower

These interpretation seminars are designed to acquaint the participants with the Parenting by Grace concept with some parenting techniques suggested from 12-hour design which can be used in churches to help parents and grandparents fulfill their scriptural obligations.

Materials will be available about mid-October from the Sunday School Board. They are entitled "Parenting by Grace: Discipline and Spiritual Growth," leader notebook and participant workbook.

The Mississippi seminar schedule along with leaders is:

Sept. 22, Emmanuel Church,

Grenada, 9:30 a.m.-noon and repeated 7-9 p.m., with Ron Mumbower, minister of counseling, First Church, Jackson, and associational family ministry director, Hinds-Madison.

Sept. 23, Immanuel Church, Cleveland, 9:30 a.m.-noon, repeated at 7-9 p.m., Randol Lindsay, pastor, Lyon Church.

Sept. 25, Immanuel Church, Ocean Springs, 9:30-noon, led by Peggy Brock of First Church, Biloxi, and repeated 7-9 p.m. with Helen Hetrick, family therapist, and member of First Church, Gulfport.

Sept. 26, Southway Church, Brookhaven, 9:30 a.m.-noon, led by George Lee, director of Tri-County

missions, repeated 7-9 p.m. by Jo Hollman, professor of family life education, Hinds Junior College.

Sept. 27, First Church, Picayune, 9:30 a.m.-noon, Dianne Warren Swaim, Hattiesburg, approved family ministry consultant, Sunday School Board.

Sept. 29, First Church, Louisville, led by Billy Johnson, pastor, Dixie Church, Hattiesburg, and repeated 7-9 p.m. by Johnson.

Sept. 30, First Church, Booneville, 9:30 a.m.-noon, and repeated 7-9 p.m., both led by Johnson.

Oct. 2, Eighth Avenue Church, Meridian, 9:30 a.m.-noon, and repeated 7-9 p.m., both sessions led by Talmadge Smith, director of missions, Copiah-Lincoln.

Oct. 6, 9:30 a.m., pastors' conference, Petal, led by George Lee.

Oct. 6, 38th Ave. Church, Hattiesburg, 7-9 p.m., led by Billy Johnson and Dianne Warren Swaim.

Oct. 6, Woodland Hills Church, Jackson, 7-9 p.m., Jo Hollman

Oct. 7, Woodland Hills Church, Jackson, 9:30 a.m.-noon, Ron Mumbower.

## Fire damages cottage at Children's Village

(Continued from page 3) as a television, clock, and silverware melted.

All lighting fixtures and ceiling in the area will have to be placed. All the food in the pantry was lost. It is not yet known how extensive the damage is to major kitchen and laundry appliances.

Nunnery says "the building and contents were insured, yet after deductibles there will be expenses into the thousands to renovate the facility for occupancy again." Tabulations of

total losses are not completed because the insurance adjustor has not finished his evaluations. Karl K. McGraw, director of properties, says it will be at least two months before Quarles Cottage is totally restored.

If the above were not enough for concern the India Nunnery Campus has experienced two expensive break-ins recently in the central supply and maintenance center. The first resulted in the theft of all the Village lawnmowers and the second resulted in vandalism that cost the Village at least \$7,000.

## Churches adopt expanded annuity plan for '88

The following churches have adopted the Expanded Annuity plan of 1988 since those reported in the July 17 issue of the Baptist Record.

ATTALA: Ethel; BOLIVAR: First, Cleveland; CLARKE: Oak Grove; GULFCOAST: First Lyman; HINDS-MADISON: Lakeshore, Midway; JACKSON: First, Escatawpa; JASPER: Corinth; LAFAYETTE: Yellow Leaf; LAUDERDALE: First, Lauderdale; LEAKE: Madden; LINCOLN: Union Hall; MARION: New Hope; SCOTT: Forest, Line Creek; SMITH: Sylvarena.

## Review board to oversee Christian Index, editor

(Continued from page 3) graduates find churches to pastor in Georgia."

The study committee was made up of four members of the Index board and three members of the GBC executive committee. Executive Director-Treasurer James N. Griffith was an ex-officio member. It was named during an executive session, the first such closed-door meeting of the Index board in more than 30 years. The committee conducted five closed-door meetings during the summer and reported back to the board in another executive session Aug. 26.

In addition to Barnett and Griffith, members of the study committee were Index vice chairman Charles

Carter, pastor of First Baptist Church, Jonesboro; and directors Stanley R. Hendricks, pastor of First Baptist Church, Colquitt, and Clark Hutchinson, pastor of Eastside Baptist Church, Marietta; Woodrow Hudson, pastor of First Baptist Church, Douglasville, member of the GBC executive committee; Billy Nimmons, pastor of First Baptist Church, Dalton, chairman of the executive committee; and Gene Tyre, pastor of First Baptist Church of Newnan, chairman of the administration committee.

Dan Martin is BP news editor; Michael Tutterow is associate editor of SBC Today.

## Encounter the challenge of

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September 29th

9:30 - 3:30

\*\*\*\*\*

Mississippi College — Hall of Fame room

October 1st

9:30-3:30

\*\*\*\*\*

William Carey College — Student Center

October 2nd

9:30 - 3:30

\*\*\*\*\*

Teachers



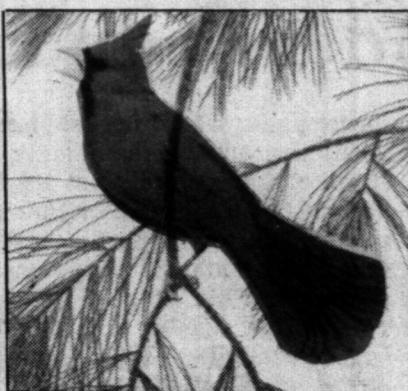
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# SCRAPBOOK



## God's silent beauty

The backyard is filled  
With trees, bushes, and shrubs  
In lovely shades of green.  
One day a pair of cardinals  
Surveyed each one.

And then they made a choice  
And built a cozy home  
Right in the center of  
A red rose bush  
That was in full bloom.

Now there are baby sounds,  
A busy mom and dad.  
Amid their happy notes  
Mocking birds and others  
Join in the chorus.

My heart is singing, too,  
Maybe not in words,  
Maybe not in whispers,  
Because God's silent beauty  
Needs no other.

—Ruby Singley  
Columbia

## Who's to blame?

I wander in my mind away  
To where the little children play,  
Upon the streets of war and crime,  
That only worsen with the time.  
We blame our teens for being wild  
When it is we who raised the child.  
Did we teach them right from wrong?  
Do they know where they belong?  
Can they tell you who they are?  
Or were they raised in clubs and bars?

Are there drugs inside their homes?  
Is it theirs? or maybe your own?  
Does the liquor upon the shelf  
Belong to them and not yourself?  
They only know what's taught and seen.  
From time of birth to becoming a teen.  
So when you criticize their game,  
Just ask yourself, "Who is to blame?"

—Bonnie Welch  
Winona

## One stood up

They laid his cloak at Saul's feet  
Then they gathered 'round him

For he proclaimed the Word of God  
For this they would stone him.

Traitor!  
Blasphemer!  
I heard the people cry.  
Father, forgive them,  
Was Stephen's reply.

One stood up  
One fell down  
Then — another arose.

Can God's Word be silenced  
By this means, you suppose?

God told his prophet, Ananias  
Find a street called Straight.

For I have chosen Saul of Tarsus,  
A vessel I will make.

One stood up  
One fell down  
Then — another arose.  
Can God's Word be silenced  
By those that oppose?

—Annette Galloway  
Natchez

## Little things

It's little things that really count  
To make my life worthwhile  
Good friends that care-about me  
The love of a little child.

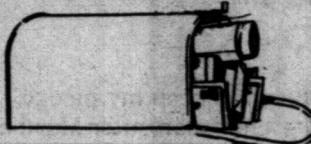
Marigolds on my window sill  
Of yellow, bronze, and gold  
Delicate old china  
The smell of fresh baked rolls.

Beautiful birds as they search for food  
And then go winging away  
(They don't know the part they play  
In helping to make my day).

Lord, don't ever let me forget  
The way my heart just sings,  
When I am full of happiness  
Because of little things.

—Ruth N. Crager  
State Line

## Letters to the editor



Letters to the editor must be limited to 300 words and the editor reserves the right to trim those that are longer. Editorial prerogatives must be reserved under all circumstances, and the opinions of the letter writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff of the Baptist Record. Only signed letters will be used, but the writer may request that his name be withheld.

## Witnessing on the street

**Editor:**  
I came back from Gospel Music Week and the Dove Awards very concerned about "Christian Rock." I just could not see how God could possibly use loud pulsating beats and garbled lyrics in His kingdom's work.

I quickly passed judgment when I checked into the hotel and saw all of these "west coast Christians" and their mode of dress which is quite different from ours here in the deep south. "Our way is certainly more Holy."

After I checked in, I began attending seminars and panel discussions led by leading Christian artists, songwriters, record and publishing executives, etc. I became confused. My confusion became more pronounced as I heard deep, moving testimonies from people with haircuts which looked like chickens.

My confusion deepened when I saw these same people openly witnessing to black waiters in the hotel restaurant. Then I saw articles showing these weirdly dressed rock groups actually out in "the wrong parts of town" ministering to filthy drug-laden souls. I chuckled as I thought of how far I would get if I were to go to the ghetto with "my brand of music" and sing "How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings."

We, inside the church doors, had better wake up for there is something going on in the Kingdom of God.

I was re-reading a book titled The Miracle of The Holy Spirit by Charles L. Allen, and in it he quoted Acts 2:6b . . . "because they each heard them speak in his own language."

As I read that scripture, the words

literally jumped off the page. It became very clear to me — the rock groups are doing just that. They are speaking to a certain element and age group "in their own language."

We should all remember — Christian Rock groups are NOT trying to bring their music into the church houses. They are concert musicians out where the Lord has shown them their harvest is.

Ann B. Colbert  
Forest

I am reminded of going with the California BSU to witness to college students who at that time held an annual drug orgy at the Colorado River during the Easter break from classes. I was editor of the CALIFORNIA SOUTHERN BAPTIST at that time.

One of the Baptist girls, a beautiful, neat, trim young lady, was waiting for the witnessing to begin. A Baptist boy, dressed in cut-off khakis and wearing no shirt, said, "Teresa, you are not going to be able to witness to anybody." She asked why. "Because you are too clean," he said.

Without a word, Teresa reached down and picked up two handfuls of dirt and rubbed it into her sparkling clean white jeans legs.

I don't know how Teresa fared, but the long-haired boy with the cut-off khakis was the most effective witness on the scene. Several of the students who had gone there for the drug scene were won to Christ. — Editor.

**Editor:**

Each morning I have my quiet time in a certain place in the living room; the outside window to my right and table lamp to the left of a wing chair. When I pray for all my family, some friends, and world leaders, I also pray for the missionaries on their birthdays.

I think of the times at Gulfshore when the Foreign Mission Board held two orientation conferences there.

## Youth Night music

**Editor:**

Many Mississippi Baptists have expressed interest in the recent Mississippi Baptist Youth Night program. We, too, were disappointed in the concert portion of the program. We feel that the criticism of the main music presentation deserves a response from our committee.

This music presentation was not what we had requested, intended, or anticipated; and we deeply regret that fact. We were very pleased with

## Wages of sin

**Editor:**

In my reading of the scriptures, I find God wants and demands one thing from his followers. That one thing is O-B-E-D-I-E-N-C-E.

All through the Bible, especially in the Old Testament, God states His prerequisites to those who would worship Him. The first four commandments of the Ten Commandments set forth God's requirements of obedience to him. (Exodus 20:2-17)

God is and has been in control of this earth since he created man. Long after you and I have "passed on," God will still be in charge. His Bible will still exit for mankind to read and follow.

If God ever made a mistake it was when he created man and gave man "the ability to choose." Man does and has done a poor job of choosing between right and wrong! Man usually

After breakfast, they all gathered in the south end of the hall facing the Gulf. Each missionary was assigned to one of those in the group and that person prayed earnestly for the person assigned to him.

It was a blessed experience, and I was glad I went a little later than usual for breakfast.

Eunice J. Campbell  
Jackson

the excellent leadership provided for worship by Dr. Richard Jackson and Mr. Bruce Fields, as well as the choir, orchestra, and accompanists.

Please understand that we are committed to provide a quality Christian program for Youth Night and will do all that is within our power to accomplish this.

Jim Didlake, chairman, for the Youth Night Committee, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

## Change in order

## No written messages

**Editor:**

I agree with Louise Shannon (Letters to the Editor, Aug. 28, and Bobby T. Hood) about your not printing the messages of the past and present presidents of our SBC and the failure to print the report of the James Dobson's group study on pornography.

Even though you did not have the material at that time, I'm sure it is available from more than one source.

We Mississippians would very much like to read it.

Mary Trussell  
Jackson

There were no messages to print. They were only spoken, not written. We could not print them. No state paper printed them. And there was no failure involved in not printing James Dobson's study. We don't have it either. I would like to read it also — Editor.

## Editor:

"Youth Night" has been for several years a time I looked forward to. I have been blessed, encouraged, and strengthened by the services. Yet I must confess the last few years have been disappointing in some ways.

My purpose is not to discuss the validity of certain types of music. My concern this year was the order of the service in regard to worship. To be specific, I think the rather lengthy concert, with lights out, just before the message encouraged talking during

(Continued on page 9)

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# Cleveland will host media library meet

The state Church Media Library Workshop will be held Oct. 24 and 25 at Immanuel Church, Cleveland, beginning at 1:30 p.m. Friday and continuing until noon on Saturday. (Registration will take place from 11 until 1 on Friday.)

Five hours of base conferences will be provided Friday afternoon and Saturday morning. Friday night's program will include two hours of selective conferences.

Base conference topics and leaders will be Advanced Classification and Cataloging, Jackie Anderson, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville; Technical Processes, Beulah Lewis and Janet Jordan, librarians, First Church, Jackson; Audio-Visuals/BTN, Glynn Hill, BSSB, Nashville; Promotion, Helen Brown of Murfreesboro, president of the state Church Media Library Organization in Tennessee; Administration, Keith Mee, BSSB, Nashville; Book Repair, Floyd Simpson, editor of *Church Media Library Magazine*, and known as "the Sunday School Board's expert book repairer."

Topics and teachers for selective conferences are How to Develop an Education Program, Keith Mee; Mini-Promotion, Sara Daniels, Sunday School teacher, Immanuel, Cleveland; Basic Classification and Cataloging, Jackie Anderson; TACMO, Beulah Lewis and Janet Jordan; National Library Week, Helen Brown (ideas for developing and using the

1987 Church Media Library Week theme, "Impact 90: Media Library — Touching Lives"); Selecting and Processing Audio-Visuals and BTN, Esther Seale, Media Library director, Broadmoor, Jackson; Dialogue With an Editor, Floyd Simmons.

"Liba" Dean of Cleveland will be the banquet speaker. Mrs. Dean is author of a book, *Jodie — One Little Ewe Lamb*, about her mentally retarded daughter. Mrs. Dean, a Presbyterian, taught school for 16 years before becoming principal at Presbyterian Day School, Cleveland.

Tommy Arinder, Immanuel pastor, will give the welcome address and bring the opening devotional message. Sara Daniels will give the Saturday morning devotional.

Juanita Hight, librarian, First Church, Louisville, will lead a memorial tribute to the late Wayne Todd, former director of the Church Media Library Department at the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Emily Russell, Immanuel pianist and first alternate to Miss Mississippi, will provide music for the workshop.

Mrs. Patricia Robinson is president of the Mississippi Church Media Library Organization. She is librarian at Immanuel, Cleveland, and secretary to the president of Delta State University.

The workshop theme will be the same as the theme for 1987 Church Media Library Week.

## Editor and associate conclude tenth year

(Continued from page 3)  
enrolled at Baylor, but his studies were interrupted by World War II and service in the Army. On his 21st birthday he was a prisoner of war in Suedetenland, Czechoslovakia. He was captured in December, 1944, while on combat duty in France as a machine gunner in the infantry, and was held until May, 1945. Following the war, he was graduated from Baylor and attended Southwestern Seminary.

He came to Jackson in 1974 from being editor of three small weekly newspapers in the Dallas area. However, before that, he had spent two years as editor of the *California Southern Baptist* and 16 years on the staff of the *Baptist Standard*, Texas Baptist paper, 12 of those years as associate editor.

For about 15 years in Texas he was part-time staff member in small churches, usually as minister of music. He was ordained by the Grove Haven Church, Dallas, in 1957. He and his wife, the former Carlene Barnhill, are members of Pinelake Church, Rankin County. They have three children and six grandchildren.

Tim Nicholas had been employed with the Home Mission Board for four years when he accepted the position in Mississippi. Born in Atlanta, he was graduated from Sylvan Hills High School, earned a bachelor of arts degree in journalism from Georgia State University, and attended Southern Seminary's School of

Religious Education. During 1968 and 1969, he was in the U.S. Air Force.

During college years he was intern one summer for the Georgia Baptist paper, the *Christian Index*, and student missionary three summers for the Home Mission Board in St. Louis, Mo. His feature articles and photographs have been published in numerous Southern Baptist magazines, including the current *MissionsUSA*.

Nicholas is a member of First Baptist Church, Jackson. His daughter, Lacey, is eight years old.

The *Baptist Record* circulation is 123,329, highest of any newspaper in Mississippi, and fourth highest in the SBC, after Texas, Alabama, and South Carolina. It goes to all counties of Mississippi, to 50 states, and 50 countries.

In 1984, the format was changed to tabloid from regular newspaper size, and the element of color was added.

The number of special pages has increased from two church pages to 25 church pages and four associational pages.

McGregor once told a *Clarion-Ledger* reporter, "The year I spent running three little country newspapers completely revolutionized my idea of what a Baptist state paper should be. I decided that the Baptist people in a state were a community. We try to get out there where the people are and find out what they're doing."

## Faces And Places

by anne washburn mc williams



A First Baptist Church, Bruce, prayer circle, led by Mrs. Lucille Cannon, standing at right, has quilted 62 quilts for a mission project of Wayne Fleming, second from right, standing, a Calhoun County missionary to Mexico. They were

assisted by women in other Baptist churches and by several shut-ins. — Photo by Jo Ann Denley, for *Calhoun County Journal*.

## Lucille wraps Mexico in quilts

Lucille Cannon named the "horses" that hold up her quilting frames Paul and Silas, because they are missionaries. With their help, she — and a Tuesday afternoon prayer circle of First Church, Bruce — have made and sent 62 quilts to Mexico.

Lucille first heard of the work of Wayne Fleming (a Southern Baptist from Calhoun County who is an independent missionary to Mexico) when she was a member of Mt. Comfort Church, and Dale Carson was pastor. She asked the prayer circle to pray for a truck for the Flemings. They did; they and some Calhoun County churches helped to finance it.

Once all eight members of the Fleming family ate lunch with Lucille and stayed for Tuesday afternoon prayer meet. From that day, Lucille's interest in their work soared. Fleming heads a Bible institute-camp on eight acres at Montemorales, Mexico.

Lucille prayed for volunteer teams from Bruce to go and help Fleming with his work. At least two teams, or three, have done that. She prayed for two years that Henry Edward Bailey would go to cook and Homer Bailey would help with carpenter work for a team. Both did go. Also Mrs. Willie Pearl Hasting, a nurse, went along with one team.

For these trips of volunteers Lucille challenged the prayer circle and the RAs, BYW, Baptist Women, and other WMU organizations to help provide food for the teams, and also boxes of clothes to send for the needy at Montemorales. They collected lots of hams. Lucille made 24 pints of jelly for Mexico one year, and 48 pints another year. This summer she made elderberry jelly to send in August by Fleming. Slate Springs Church gave a school bus; loaded with clothes and food, it took a team to Mexico last February. Medicine from Bruce Hospital went along, too.

As she listened to Fleming's list of needs, Lucille recalls, she heard the Lord say to her, "Tell him to build a dorm." The volunteer workers could stay in it, and it could be used for a school, or a camp, or a place for Vacation Bible schools.

The dorm was built, and volunteer workers came back to Bruce saying that it was cold in Montemorales and a quilt would have come in handy. So the idea of quilts came to Lucille, an idea she felt was from the Lord. Why not make quilts for Mexico? The workers needed quilts. Children who stayed in the dorm could use them for sleeping bags in summer and for cover in the winter. (Previously, the children had been sleeping on the bare floor.) Extra quilts will go to homes of the needy.

She realized she didn't have any quilt frames, so she appealed to Spratlin Building Supply. They donated lumber, and Rue Spratlin made the frames and the horses which she named Paul and Silas.

It was too hot this summer for quilting in homes. "Our pastor and his wife, Clara and Charles Nestor, have really backed us up," Lucille said. Nestor asked, "Is it a sin to quilt at church where it is air-conditioned?" So that's what they did.

Women from Rocky Branch, Westside, Calvary, Banner, and Mt. Comfort churches have also assisted, as well as shut-ins. The Share Sunday School Class of First, Bruce, helped. Inez McGuire quilted four quilts in her home; Flora Gable quilted three quilts at home; Bobbie Worsham pieced a quilt top at home. Others provided thread, lining and polyester. One gave five linings at once. Those who quilted week after week, in addition to Lucille, were Mona Drake, Evelyn Spratlin, Earlene Barnes, Verlon Bryant, and Bessie Moorhead.

Besides the quilts, Lucille has sent other gifts. One Christmas she sent money to the Flemings. She heard they gave it to the family of a man dying with cancer. "The Lord convicted me," she remembers. "Instead of serving refreshments when I have prayer meeting at my house, I thought, why don't I send that \$5 for a needy family in Mexico?" She did. Another woman said, "I will do the same." For the cost of the dorm at Montemorales, Lucille pledged \$500. "But the Lord said to me, 'You can give a thousand.' I've passed the \$700 mark, and I know

he'll help me keep my pledge."

Quite a few years after Martha took two-year-old Lucille to the Baptist Orphanage, the two met again. Martha said, "I was afraid you would not forgive me for that." (Actually it was not just Martha's decision to place the Whatley children in the orphanage, but the decision of her whole family. I was amazed the other week when Senie Fortenberry, member of Daniel Memorial Church, called and said that Martha Alliston was her mother! I had met Mrs. Alliston many years ago.)

But no, Lucille told Martha: "I am glad you did. God works in mysterious ways. He has worked it all out for my good."

## CLASSIFIED

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## Intensive care

*Drugs are just as deadly  
as a loaded gun.  
Don't take chances  
with your life*

### Isolation and chemical abuse

Dr. Geary Alford, consulting psychologist at Mississippi Baptist Chemical Dependency Center, continues the discussion on psychological aspects of chemical abuse.

Does a person who uses chemicals usually feel isolated?

Not initially. The person who misuses chemicals does not feel isolated when he begins the habit. Very often the use of chemicals is in a social setting with other people. For example, very frequently when people smoke marijuana they do it together, or people who use cocaine may go to a party and get high together. People who get drunk may go to the tavern or bar. What happens is that a person starts to behave in ways that are so offensive that he begins to alienate those who are close to him. He begins to alienate friends; loved ones; and, often times, employers. He turns more and more to his buddies who drink and use drugs. He feels more isolated from those who care about him. The sense of isolation and rejection is because of the behavior of a drinker or drug abuser, and his friends or family push away in their own defense. The feeling of being apart is not new for every person who uses drugs. Before one ever used or abused, such feelings were present. A sense of isolation may be regarded as a rationalization for

having used. However, the fact of isolation doesn't cause chemical abuse. It is true that, sooner or later, most people who abuse drugs will feel isolated from people they care about, and this is because other people cannot tolerate the offensive consequences that go with drug abuse.

Eventually, as the disease progresses, the chemically dependent person feels alone in the world, even feeling as if God has deserted him. The tragedy is that it is the abuser who has alienated himself or herself from others and not others who have deserted the abuser. It is, therefore, only after abusers begin to see and understand their rigid egocentrism that they can become open to therapeutic change and open to God. At such time, abusers can then truly begin to understand that they are not, and never were, really alone and their sense of isolation was self-imposed.

Questions addressed to Intensive Care are forwarded to Chaplain Joe Stovall at the Mississippi Baptist Medical Center and are handled in consultation with Dr. Ed Burchak of the staff of the Chemical Dependency Center. Inquiries should be addressed to Intensive Care, Baptist Record, Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205.

### Staff Changes

Nancy Bigelow has accepted the call as interim musician at Deerbrook Church, Brooksville, (Noxubee Association).

She is a senior at S. D. Lee High School in Columbus, and plans to pursue her education in the music field. Homer Ramage is pastor.

Calvary Church, Clay Association, has called Jim Young of Liberty as minister of music/education.

Lincoln Road Church, (Lebanon) announces that Kenneth McCardle, of Hattiesburg, has accepted the position of minister of music and youth.

McCardle is a graduate of Mississippi Gulf Coast Junior College, and University of Southern Mississippi. He is employed full-time with First Mississippi National Bank and serves as park ministry coordinator for Lebanon



McCardle First Mississippi National Bank and serves as park ministry coordinator for Lebanon

Association. In the past, McCardle has served as minister of music and youth at Caswell Springs Church and First Church, McLaurin. Lincoln Road Church is temporarily meeting at Thames Elementary School.

Charles Rodgers has been called as pastor of Faith Church, Hickory Flat. Prior to going to Hickory Flat, he was pastor of Bel Aire Church, Gulfport. He and his wife, Debbie, have two children, Brad and Aimee.

Jerry Nance assumed the duties of minister of music Aug. 24 at Bay Vista Church, Biloxi. Nance previously served on the staff at First Church, Gulfport, as interim minister of music.

The Gulfport native is a graduate of Mississippi College, where he received the bachelor of music degree. He is currently attending New Orleans Seminary.

Greg Johnston, pastor of Union Church, Lincoln County, has resigned to accept the pastorate of Union Church, Walthall County.

New Salem Church, Lowndes County, has called Gary Sumrall as its first full-time minister of music/youth. Sumrall is a native of Hattiesburg.

### C. J. Olander is guest of honor

## Morgan City celebrates centennial

Morgan City Church, James Allen Walters, pastor, celebrated its 100th anniversary on Aug. 17. Glenn Simmons delivered the special message for the 11 a.m. service. Olive Thompson, Denise Alderman, and Alyce Faye Moore presented special music.

During the Sunday School hour, a sharing time was provided for former pastors. C. J. Olander, who now lives at 1202 S. Hillview Drive, Meridian, was guest of honor. He went to Morgan City as pastor 51 years ago, and remained there 19½ years. He will be 92 on Sept. 22.

It was while Olander was pastor at Morgan City that he wrote the article, "A Distinct Need," that started a discussion for a Ministers' Retirement Plan, and also he was instrumental in starting the Baptist Foundation. It was there he was made a member of the Relief and Annuity Board, SBC.

In 1935, he recalls, "I was asked to preach at Cruger." He moved there and found five pastorless churches — Cruger, Tchula, Morgan City, Harmony, and later, Sidon. "The pastors had left," he says, "even student pastors from Mississippi College could not make it. Conditions were bad, spiritually, morally, economically. They were whipped. Hard situations had always been God's challenge to me. Now there are seven full-time churches in this field, with pastors." Olander organized Horseshoe near

Tchula and Phillipston near Morgan City.

"When I was pastor there," he reports, "the people — planters and others — were broke due to the great depression. The WMS of Morgan City, some men, and others were interested in having a pastor on the field. I became it. A pastor's home was needed — no money. Well, in 1936, one was built. Took two years to complete. We were in it. The church was wrecked in a storm. I propped it up with 6 x 8 bridge timbers borrowed from the district supervisor. In 1939 we started what became a brick building. We held services in it before it was completed. In 1941, the building was dedicated, both buildings debt-free. A very difficult undertaking. God was with us."

The Bear Creek Church, which preceded the Morgan City Church, was organized in 1886, the first Baptist church in Leflore County. It was organized in the woods under leadership of R. W. Merrill, a student at Mississippi College, and the church's first pastor.

Services were held then once a month in a log cabin in the yard of Sam Love. Early baptisms were in "Mosquito" Lake. A plank platform was sunk into the lake and a plank frame set built around it.

When the Columbus and Greenville Railroad was built, new community

centers evolved. Itta Bena (home in the woods) drew many citizens. Members of the Bear Creek Church who lived near there organized the Itta Bena Church in 1896.

Then a railroad was built from Schlater to Belzoni and more changes took place. People moved to what is now Morgan City. A school was built in this fertile farming area, and religious services were held in the school. Remaining Bear Creek people met with them and became the Morgan City Baptist Church, in 1906, with W. R. Cooper as pastor.

Olander was pastor at Morgan City from 1935 until Oct. 31, 1954.

At Horseshoe and Phillipston, government housing developments, churches were organized, first as missions of Tchula and Morgan City churches. Other mission projects of the Morgan City Church while Olander was pastor, included Spanish-language services on Sunday afternoons for Mexicans, and Vacation Bible Schools taught to black children. An annex was built in 1969. At least 11 pastors have served Morgan City since 1954.

The Centennial Committee included Mary Cothran, Ruble Cothran, Bessie Holeman, Mrs. Percy Kimbrough, Duke Kimbrough, James Walters, Gail Walters, and Mrs. Sam Thompson.

### Names in the News

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Robert H. Dilday has been named associate editor of the Religious Herald, newsjournal of the Baptist General Association of Virginia. Julian H.

Pentecost is editor.

Dilday has been associate editor of the Christian Index, newsjournal for Georgia Baptists, since August of 1984.

LEWISVILLE, Texas (BP) — Eual Franklin Lawson, retired associate director of the evangelism division for the Southern Baptist Home Mission

Board for 17 years, died August 22. He was 78 and father of L. E. "Chief" Lawson, director of evangelism and Brotherhood for the Baptist Convention of New Mexico.

Funeral services will be held Aug. 25 at First Baptist Church in Lewisville, Texas, with burial in Marietta, Okla.



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# Lyrique Bells of Alta Woods ring on mission in New York

Lyrique Bells of Alta Woods church, Jackson, went on a mission trip to Ogdensburg, N.Y. Aug. 13-20. The group includes 13 women who perform as a handbell choir.

Grace Baptist Church, Ogdensburg, is one of the mission churches which Alta Woods helps to support with monthly financial assistance. Twice previously, members of the church have participated in missions work in Ogdensburg.

The Lyrique Bells' trip came about after Roger Best, pastor of Grace Church, heard the group play in a community Thanksgiving service two years ago.

The trip involved musical programs at the church in Ogdensburg as well as concerts in hospitals, malls, parks,

nursing homes, a mental hospital, and a prison facility. In addition, group members participated in a Sunday School survey effort and held a handbell workshop.

In an area which is more than 90 percent Catholic, Best said he felt the handbells would provide a method of ministry to help arouse interest in the Baptist work there and provide a witness throughout the community.

Members of the Lyrique Bells who participated in this mission trip were Teresa Aikens, Jana Allen, Jeanette Davis, Lynn Hill, Eloise Thomas, Judy Hicks, and Terry Hodges, director. Also participating were Chancel Bell members Kathi Lee, Renee Jones, and Traci Middleton, along with Leesa Hammond from the Senior High Bell Choir.

## Homecomings

**Camp Ground, Water Valley:** Sept. 21; Claude Howe, Senatobia, guest speaker.

**Calvary (Scott):** 20th Anniversary, Sept. 21; dinner on the ground; mini-gospel-concert by Albert Homer, Jr., and his family, afternoon service at 2 p.m.

**Wheeler Grove (Alcorn):** Sept. 28; Kara Blackard, pastor, speaker; lunch in gym; afternoon singing, Wheeler Grove men's group; song leader, Dexter Benjamin; no evening service.

**Beulah (Holmes):** Sept. 28; Joe Hill, pastor, Doty Springs (Attala), former pastor of Beulah, speaker; lunch served at noon; gospel singing in afternoon; featuring Oak Grove Church (Holmes) singers.

## Revival Dates

**Faith, Hickory Flat, (Benton):** Sept. 14-19; regular Sunday services; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; Charles Rodgers, pastor, messages.

**Sulphur Springs (Newton):** Sept. 14-19; 7 nightly; Sunday morning, youth emphasis day, followed by fellowship meal; 2 p.m., gospel singing, featuring "Sons of Faith" quartet; no Sunday night service; Mon.-Fri.,

Don Savell, pastor, New Pearl Valley, Philadelphia, evangelist; Randall Creel, pastor.

**Chapel Hill (Hinds):** Sept. 14-17; Sunday, 11 a.m., lunch served, afternoon service, no Sunday night; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Wilson Winstead, pastor, Briar Hill, evangelist; Larry Boyd, pianist; Bobby Stubbs, music; S. W. Valentine, pastor

## Mississippi Baptist activities

Sept. 14-17 State Missions Season of Prayer and Margaret Lackey Offering (WMU Emphasis)  
Sept. 19-21 Mississippi Baptist Conference of the Deaf; Camp Garaywa; 8 p.m., 19th-1 p.m., 21st (CoMi)  
Sept. 20 Small Church Leadership Conference; 9:00 a.m.; 3:30 p.m. (PD)

## -Just for the Record-

**McLaurin Heights Church, Pearl,** will host "Truth," in a concert of contemporary Christian music, Sept. 29, at 7:30 p.m.

The tour is being conducted in an effort to raise funds for feeding and healthcare projects for impoverished children in Latin America. Before launching their American tour, Truth's members made a survey trip to Brazil to assess the level of poverty. The group returned with a pledge to raise \$1 million for projects being coordinated by Nilson Fanini Third World Ministries.

"Truth," directed by Roger Brelan, has recorded 36 albums.

Curtis L. Williams is pastor of McLaurin Heights Church.

The youth of Cherry Park Church, Clinton recently held their summer youth retreat. The theme of the retreat was "Christian youth facing this generation." The group stayed at Briarlake Church in Decatur, Ga., where devotions and Bible study were held. They visited Stone Mountain National Park, where a Bible study on spiritual gifts was held. The group also visited Six Flags and the Home Mission Board.

Serving as chaperones were Mrs. Ann James, Mike Carroll, minister of youth, and his wife, Juanita. The youth group ended their series of Bible studies at the home of Mrs. Carroll's parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Profitt, in Columbus where they stayed on the way back home.

Thursday, September 11, 1986

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 9

## Senior Adult Corner

### Ridgecrest choir will present musical

The Fellowship Choir of Ridgecrest Church, Jackson, will present the musical "All My Life" by Robert B. Robinson several times during the month of September. They traveled to Lexington, Sept. 7 to sing for the evening worship service at First Church. On Sept. 14, they will present the musical at their home church for the

7 p.m. worship service. They will be going to First Church, Columbus, Sept. 21 and will sing "All My Life" for the evening worship service.

The group will leave from Columbus to go to Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center to attend Chautauqua where they will present the musical

Sept. 22, at 6:15 p.m.

At the close of Chautauqua, Sept. 26, they will travel to Nashville for sightseeing.

The 40 voice choir is directed by Joe B. Chapman Jr., and is accompanied by Dede Holden. Paul W. Stevens is pastor.

### First, Columbus, honors senior adults

Aug. 29-31, First Church, Columbus, held its Senior Celebration honoring members and guests of L.L.L (Live Long and Like It). Chester Swor, author, counselor, and speaker was the guest of the three-day celebration

Festivals began with 145 persons in attendance at a banquet.

Swor told the group that as they

grow older they should keep a fresh new outlook by "adding new wood," "letting our faith sustain us," and "widening our horizons by reading." He added that senior adults should keep a developing sense of humor.

On Saturday morning 55 members and guests met in the music suite for Bible Study led by Swor, games, and

songs. After lunch, Wilson Henderson and Alex Amaxopoulos entertained with music.

Swor preached at the church for both Sunday morning worship services. Then, on Sunday night the S.S.S. (Super Senior Singers) presented a musical written for senior adults entitled, "More Than Ever Before." Wilson Henderson, minister of music, directed the choir. James Allen, church organist, accompanied.

The average age of those in the choir was 74½ years with the total years of service being 2,778.

### Seminar planned for leaders of adult groups in CT

"How to Conduct Adult Church Training Groups," a seminar for leaders of adult groups in Church Training, will be conducted in the Sky Room of the Baptist Building in Jackson on Oct. 16.

The Church Training Department, Norman Rodgers, adult consultant, is planning the seminar.

Larry Garner, editor of Equipping Center Modules, Church Training Department, Sunday School Board, will be the special seminar leader.

This special one-day study is

designed to provide a training setting leading to study course credit for workers with adult groups in Church Training who have little or no experience.

It will also be a refresher course for those who have experience in leading adult groups. The seminar will cover the purpose, resources, organization, enlistment methods, and offer general suggestions for improving adult Church Training.

Preregistration is requested. Call or write the Church Training Department, Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205. The preregistration fee of \$10 will cover cost of materials and lunch. The seminar begins at 9:30 a.m. and concludes by 3:30 p.m.

### Carey to offer music workshops

William Carey College is offering two music workshops on the Hattiesburg campus during September.

A workshop on songwriting and arranging will be held from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., Sept. 19, and Sept. 20 from 8:30 a.m. to noon and from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Thomas Fine Arts Center. The workshop will be instructed by Howard Keever, assistant professor of music theory at Carey.

Topics to be discussed include the principles of lyric writing, basic harmonic progression, principles of melody construction, and steps to having a song published.

The cost of the workshop is \$50. Registration deadline is Sept. 19 at 4 p.m.

A workshop on Christian Worship will be held Friday, Sept. 26 from 6:30

to 9:30 p.m., and Saturday, Sept. 27 from 8:30 a.m. to noon and from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. The class, held in the Thomas Fine Arts Center, will be lead by Frances W. Winters, professor emerita of Carey.

Workshop topics include worship as experience, participation, witness and fulfillment.

A \$10 registration fee will be assessed, but students who are eligible to receive credit will receive a tuition waiver for the session. Deadline for registration is Sept. 26 at 4 p.m.

Participants of either workshop will receive one hour of college credit. Those interested in more information or in registering may do so through the William Carey College office of admissions at (601) 582-6103.

### Change in order

(Continued from page 6)  
ing the concert. Also during this time of the program there was whistling and comments which I feel were not gestures of worship. It seems to me that if the concert had been at the beginning of the service, and possibly the choir could have sung just before

the message, it would have been better for the speaker and congregation.

Eddie Bryant, pastor  
Tuckers Crossing Church  
Laurel

Some have suggested having the concert following the message. — Editor.

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# SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON COMMENTARIES

## Joel: God responds to the nation's repentance

By Marjean Patterson

Joel 2:18-3:21

As surely as sunrise follows a long, dark night God responds to his people when they repent and he provides restoration and blessing.

### I. A promise to restore the land (2:18-27)

The prophet Joel must have had a song in his heart as he conveyed God's words to the people. Though they had suffered through a terrible plague of locusts and a threat of judgment from the Lord, a day of mourning and prayer had been initiated. Apparently all that God was waiting for was a humble and contrite heart in his people. Then he began to answer their prayers.

**Patterson** One promise after another was given the people. There had been crop failures; now he would give crops abundantly. There was drought, but now he would give plenty of rain. Where there was an inner emptiness, now he would fill their hearts. Where there was a coldness, now he would warm them. Where there was weakness, he would give them strength. Where there was uncertainty, he

destroyed from the earth. In a great plan for the ages, God saved alive Noah and his family along with other created life. At the end of the flood, God began to work in Noah and his family to start again.

### I. The provision of food (Genesis 9:1-4)

God gave all that he had made to man for food. He encouraged and charged Noah and his family to multiply and replenish the earth and to use both plant and animal life as food.

Man was again established as superior to the rest of creation. We are told that all of the animals were to be in subjection to man and that creation was to be subdued and used for his good.

Expressly prohibited was the eating of blood. Many believe that the foundation for this prohibition rests in the fact that the blood of the animal represented its life. The sacrificial system required that the life of the animal, its blood was to be offered to God as an atoning sacrifice.

### II. The prohibition of murder (Genesis 9:5-7)

The sanctity of human life is very strongly set forth. God tells us that we are not to take the life of another person. It seems that the strongest argument rests in the fact that man is made in the image of God. The law was so

would give them assurance.

### II. A promise to pour out his Spirit (2:28-29)

After the people had been blessed, after their crops had been restored, after it had rained so that God's favor was expressed in an outward, obvious way that they could understand — after this, he would come unto them and change their whole experience. He would come and live in them.

The apostle Peter quoted this passage on the Day of Pentecost. Beginning with the statement, "but this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel . . ." Peter proclaimed that the fulfillment of this prophecy had come (Acts 2:17-21).

### III. A promise to deliver all who call on him (2:30-32)

God promised that he would call attention to his power by means of terrifying signs. Every natural thing, as it were, would be shaken to its foundation.

The signs which God would show would be completely out of the ordinary course of events. Perhaps Joel spoke of times past in Jewish history — when Moses turned the waters of the Nile into blood, a pillar of fire at night protected God's people in the Exodus from Egypt, and a cloud of smoke led them out of the land. Or the fulfillment may have been seen several hun-

dred years later, when the blood of the Lamb was spilled, in order to take away the sin of the world.

## BIBLE BOOK

At any rate, terrible signs would indicate the presence of judgment over the whole earth. God promised deliverance for all who would call on his name. To call on the "name" of the Lord is to base the plea for deliverance on God's character, purpose, and will. Also present in Joel 2:32 is the idea that God had determined that salvation for the human race would be provided through the preserved remnant in Judah.

### IV. A promise to judge Judah's enemies and bless Judah (3:1-21)

Restoration for Judah and Jerusalem and judgment for "the nations" would be two sides of "the day of the Lord." After he had blessed his people, God would then go on to call the whole world into judgment. Any who had hindered the work of God would receive the judgment of God.

The nations had scattered God's people; they had divided up God's land to foreigners after

the fall of Jerusalem; they had cast lots to decide who would get God's people as slaves; and boys and girls were degraded to the level of trade items.

The battle between God and the guilty nations would require the use of every possible weapon and every available warrior. Tools for farming would be converted to implements of war.

The Lord will, at the same time, become his people's hope and the "strength" of the children of Israel. The Lord himself becomes a refuge and fortress; God becomes the dwelling place of safety for his children.

Joel's prophecy concludes with a great note of victory. "I will avenge their blood and I will not clear the guilty, for the Lord dwells in Zion. This is the great message of Joel.

When it seems that God has withdrawn his blessing, look up into his face. We need to tell the truth to God, confess to him as we are and call upon God to bless us. God is merciful, kind, gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy. We should trust him. We should call upon him, for we will find that God will come and bless us.

**Marjean Patterson** is executive director, Mississippi WMU.

## Rainbow's meaning: We can make a fresh start

By Robert E. Self

Genesis 9:1-15

On occasion, we meet some person who has served and loved Jesus Christ faithfully all his life. It is a commendable thing to be able to say

that one has never strayed very far from the path that God has set. But for most of us, we must confess that while we have not been terribly bad, we have had those moments when we have lost sight of God's great plan for our lives. We would have to admit that there was a time when we needed a fresh start.

That was the case with the people of Noah's day. As man grew both in numbers and in his freedom to act, it seems that he grew farther and farther from God. His incorrect actions resulted in a compounding of sin in his life and brought God to the place of great dismay over his act of creation.

Judgment came in the form of a great flood that covered the earth. God determined that sin would have to be punished and he chose to do it by sending a great flood. Man was virtually

destroyed from the earth. In a great plan for the ages, God saved alive Noah and his family along with other created life. At the end of the flood, God began to work in Noah and his family to start again.

### I. The provision of food (Genesis 9:1-4)

God gave all that he had made to man for food. He encouraged and charged Noah and his family to multiply and replenish the earth and to use both plant and animal life as food.

Man was again established as superior to the rest of creation. We are told that all of the animals were to be in subjection to man and that creation was to be subdued and used for his good.

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### II. The prohibition of murder (Genesis 9:5-7)

The sanctity of human life is very strongly set forth. God tells us that we are not to take the life of another person. It seems that the strongest argument rests in the fact that man is made in the image of God. The law was so

strong that it required that an animal that took the life of a person was to be put to death.

The Bible certainly has bearing upon our understanding of capital punishment and war. Suffice it to say here that the argument can be set forth from either point of view, indicating the complexity of the questions. Perhaps that major point to be made is that in the view of God, the taking of life is a very serious matter that must never be treated lightly.

### III. The promise of safety (Genesis 9:8-15)

At the conclusion of God's judgment by the flood, God promised man that he would never

## UNIFORM

have to fear that kind of judgment again. Imagine the feelings that would otherwise have haunted him. Every thunderstorm would bring a reminder of those horrible days and the thought that it could happen again.

But God made a promise that he would not send another worldwide flood. The sin of the covenant that God made with all of life is the rainbow. He stated that he would set his bow in the cloud and would remember his covenant when the rainbow appeared.

It is doubtful that this was the first rainbow

that ever appeared. The important point is that now, the rainbow has a new meaning. God himself has said that it is a sign of the covenant and a reminder to all that there will be no more judgment by water. God is saying that we can start over without fearing the past.

Noah and his family needed and wanted to start over. God's grace has shown that regardless of the seriousness of one's sins, he can begin again.

We must be careful about pointing out particular needs. However, while there are many areas that the church must be concerned to help bring that grace to bear, one ought to do a better job of helping those whose homes have been destroyed by divorce. We simply must in the name of Jesus become more helping than we have been. And, many others are in a similar place for other reasons and need to make a fresh start.

A group of our kids were climbing a mountain a while back. At the 12,500 foot mark, one sat down and others quickly followed. Gasping for breath, she said, "I think I need to start over."

That is the message of the cross. You and I need to begin again, and we can!

**Robert Self** is pastor, First, Brookhaven.

## David's prayer of confession: "I am the man"

By James W. Street

Psalm 51:1-13

David is the man! Nathan had confronted David with his tragic condition of adultery, deceit, and murder. And now, after almost a

year of trying to convince himself and others that all was okay, he confessed, "I am the man." Curious isn't it — how sin works. There is the sin and then there is the terrible struggle to cover the sin and all the turmoil it produces inside us and outside for others to see.

**Street** Absolutely nothing worked for David. The sin, shame, stain, and hurt of his hot-blooded affair with Bathsheba coupled with his execution of Uriah was eating him alive. His attempts to counter his nefarious actions with public relation ploys only dug the hole of guilt deeper. All of his private lessons with the self-improvement gurus of his day produc-

ed nothing except more sin, shame, stain, and hurt.

In the midst of his deepest tragedy, David does the only thing he can do — he confesses. Surely, he is not the first individual to come face-to-face with the inevitable consequences of wrestling helplessly and hopelessly with the problem of sin, but he is certainly a prime example. Sin destroys — that is its nature. David cries out, "I have sinned against God," and then places himself on/in God's mercy.

You see, sin breaks fellowship with God, with others, and takes all the love out of life. That was David's plight and is ours, as Christians, as well when there is unconfessed sin in our lives. Unconfessed sin is unforgiven sin which produces a certain malaise of unhappiness, distance, and disquietness about the sinner.

David discovers, as we do, that forgiveness is to be found only in God's mercy. That same God whose laws David violated has the power to forgive and forget. Not only does God have the power to forgive and forget; God longs to

do exactly that. So why, do we, like David, keep on running, why stay out of kilter, why waste away, why let sin destroy us? All that we have to do is take that sin(s) to the Father, confess it in repentant faith, and ask for forgiveness.

After genuine confession on David's part, God does his part, beginning with pardon and then cleansing. We have an additional advantage that David posited only through faith; we Christians have seen the ultimate pardoning that God does. It took place on a scrubby hill outside the city dump where people were killed. We will never know all that transpired on that hill that day, but we do understand enough to believe that God was there and that his son paid the final installment on our sin debt.

## LIFE AND WORK

There is no sin so heinous that God cannot and will not forgive the person who commits it

when that one comes in confession and repentence to the cross. Because of that windswept hill experience, we can pray with David, "Have mercy upon me . . . blot out my transgressions," and be assured that he will!

According to David, this is what God wants: truth and a contrite spirit. We come to the Father on his terms, not on our own terms, and when we do that God will "forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." David was crushed and broken in his multiple unconfessed, unforgiven sins. There was no peace, no joy, no life. Then he came to God who had the answer.

Then like one thirsting to the point of death in the desert, David prays that God will slake his parched spirit: "Restore to me the joy of thy salvation." There was the power, the victory, and it was overpowering. Now David has peace. Now David can worship. Now David can sing, again. Now David can witness to his faith in God. So can you!

**James Street** is pastor, First, Cleveland.

# THE VILLAGE VIEW

## The Baptist Children's Village

Paul N. Nunnery, Executive Director  
P. O. Box 11308, Jackson, MS 39213, (601) 922-2242

## Gifts of Honor and Memory

A portion of the Village View is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

August 11 - August 15, 1986

### MEMORIALS

Mark Applewhite  
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Davis  
Mrs. Evelyn Bailey  
Mrs. Clayton Lawrence  
Ruth Ballard  
Claire B. Gibson  
Infant Child of Johnny Barber  
Earline Payne  
Mrs. Sybil Stephens Barksdale  
TEL Sunday School, Grenada  
Virginia & Edward Thomason  
Mrs. Lorena Bingham  
Mrs. Vernon Kimsey  
Mrs. Virginia Bingham  
Mr. & Mrs. W. R. Elliott  
Mrs. Thelma Boswell  
Marie Bilbo  
Mrs. Kathryn Brasher  
Mr. Fred J. Graff & Jenny  
Mrs. Beatrice Breedlove  
Larry Bruce  
Mr. & Mrs. J. S. Randle  
Mrs. Jeroline Carlisle  
Leaf River Baptist Church  
Mrs. Rose Young Carter  
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Hester & Family  
Mrs. Jewel Pardue  
Mr. & Mrs. J. W. Henson  
Mr. & Mrs. Herschel Thomason  
Mr. & Mrs. Melvin Oakley  
Mr. & Mrs. James Goode  
Mr. & Mrs. Orba Deaton  
Cecil & Frances Miller  
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Faye Brooks  
Diane Lang  
Nancy Woods  
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Mrs. Beatrice Breedlove  
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Robert J. Terry  
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# Baptist Record

## Yazoo's "Miz Vi" buys lots for church in Kansas

By Tim Nicholas

"The only thing that kept me from being completely flabbergasted was that I know God works in mysterious ways," says Leon Parker, pastor of New Hope Baptist Church in Topeka, Kans., after he received a letter from Mrs. Viola "Miz Vi" Campbell, who lives in Yazoo County, Miss.

The letter was the result of a mission trip by Baptists in Yazoo and Warren Counties in the summer of 1985. Miz Vi, now 78, who has been a longtime church and missions supporter, went on the trip which was spearheaded by Courtney Selvy, a native Topekan who formerly was pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, Eudora. Selvy is now pastor at Bentonia, Miss.

New Hope Church was formed in February, 1981 as a mission of First Church, Lawrence.

Miz Vi, during a break from the community survey the group was taking for the inner city church, spoke to

Parker asking where the people parked when they came to the church. He told her the two adjoining lots were available but the church could not afford to buy them. The retired schoolteacher filed that information away.

This summer, Lavon Hatten, director of missions for Warren and Yazoo Associations, and B.B. Neely, associational Brotherhood director again planned another mission trip to Topeka.

Miz Vi's husband Faula had died in the meantime leaving her with extra funds ready to pay inheritance taxes. A visit to her lawyer, she says, proved she did not need the amount. So she contacted Parker, Hatten, and the Kaw Valley director of missions Ken Townsend telling of her desire to help New Hope Church.

After title search and guarantees that the land would only be used for Southern Baptist work, Miz Vi provided

the money to purchase the lots adjacent to the church. "I thought I could not honor my husband's memory in any better way," she says. "He spent his life working for his church and community as janitor, transportation for the youth, keeper of the cemetery, deacon, and constant attendant. He was a missions enthusiast."

Miz Vi rejoined the missions team after the purchase, helping it construct a storage building at Baptist Community Ministries in Topeka, general carpentry and painting at Bray Assembly, Lake Perry, and worked at Calvary Church, Atchison, before returning home to Mississippi.

Now New Hope Church owns two lots which contain two aging rental houses. The congregation will meet to decide a course of action with the possibility of eventually, when money permits, razing the houses to allow construction of a parking lot.

### Singing Churchmen to go on tour

The annual Fall tour of the Mississippi Singing Churchmen will be Sept. 15-17. Each concert will feature the Churchmen Brass and Churchmen Handbells in addition to the singing group.

This year's tour begins with a concert at Highland Church, Meridian, Sept. 15, 7 p.m. The next day the group will have two performances beginning with First Church, Quitman, at 12:15 then at First Church, Magee, 7 p.m.

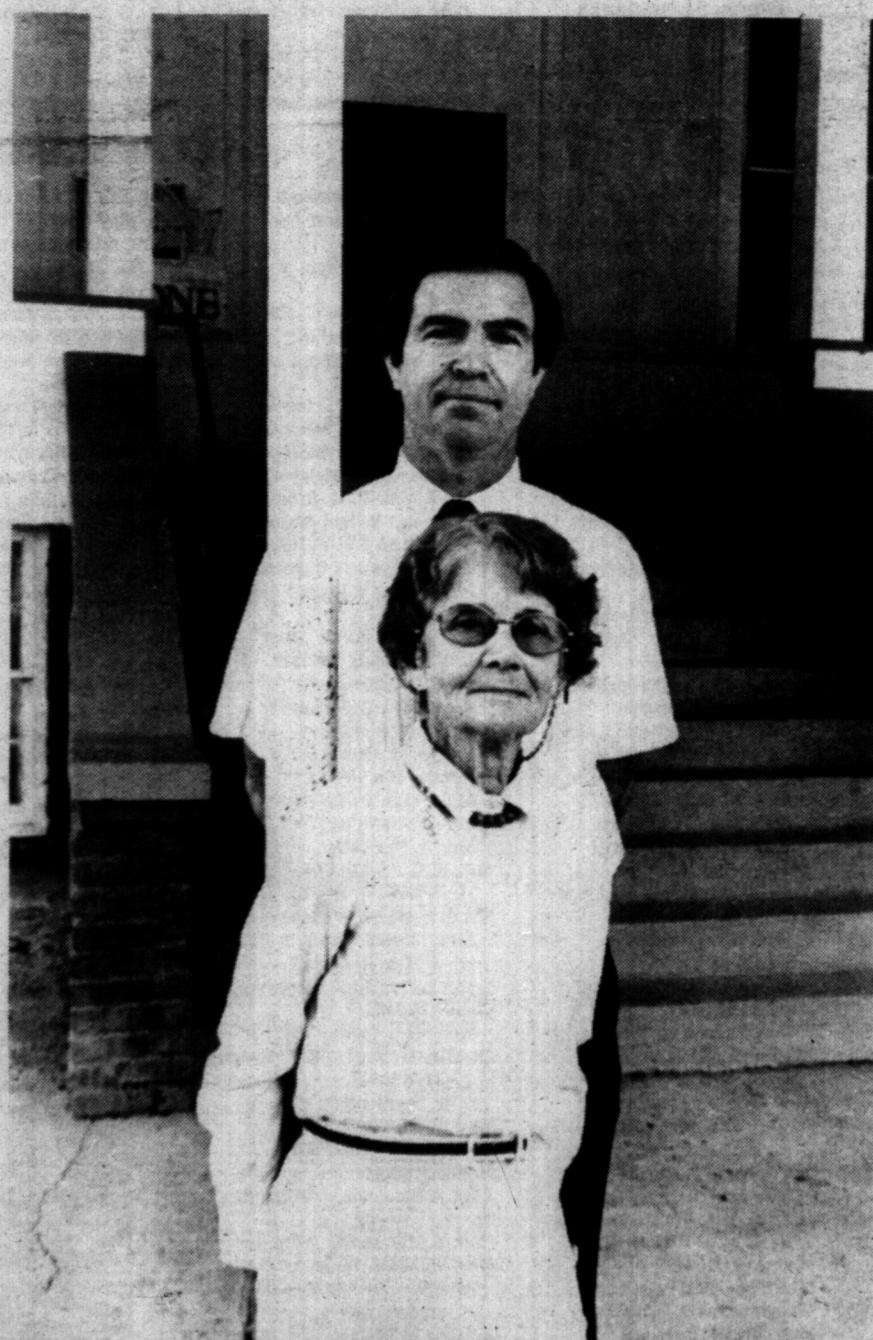
On Sept. 17 the Churchmen will perform for the chapel service at Mississippi College in Clinton, at 10 a.m. At that time the group will present to the school a three octave set of handbells in memory of Truitt Roberts. Roberts, an active member of the Singing Churchmen for many years, was well known for his expertise with handbell groups and did a great deal to further their use.

The Churchmen are directed by Milfred Valentine who is chairman of the Music Department of Jones Jr. College and is also a minister of music. Garner Keel, minister of music at First Church, Brookhaven, is president of the group.

### Carey schedules soccer games

William Carey College begins its first year of soccer this fall with a full schedule of games. The team will be located on the Gulf Coast campus in Gulfport.

Leading the team will be Coach Marc Leuchtman, formerly an assistant coach at Northeast Louisiana University (Monroe) and Mercer University (Macon, Ga.).



Viola "Miz Vi" Parker stands with her pastor Johnny Parker in front of Bethlehem Baptist Church near Benton. The church building was formerly a schoolhouse where she taught math, spelling, and English.

### Devotional

## Our treasures are safe

By Bruce Hill

Jesus is quoted in Matthew 6:19-20 as saying, "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, . . . where thieves break through and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, . . . where thieves do not break through and steal."

A recent event in our town brought this scripture to mind. The town's people were making plans

to open a museum and were asking local residents to donate or loan old items of interest for display.

While reading a 1930 issue of a Lexington newspaper I discovered a complete description of some twenty or more items that had been placed in the cornerstone of the hospital completed in that year. Some of the items dated as far back as 1864 and would certainly have been collector's items worthy of a place in the museum.

Approval was obtained to open the cornerstone to retrieve the items for display in the museum. A number of excited people gathered for a ceremonious opening of the stone and a look at the contents.

The excited faces quickly changed to express disappointment. Thieves had apparently broken through and stolen all the contents except a few coins of little or no value.

The cornerstone had been

removed and then put back into place without the knowledge of anyone in authority. In a time when no one was expecting, a decision was made to open the cornerstone. Instead of the items being safe in their original resting place, they had been stolen away.

Jesus was using a commonplace parable to teach us a divine truth. There were thieves in his day that would take what they could get their hands on without regard for the owner of the treasure.

Jesus went on to say, "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matt. 6:21).

When we think about the most important, the most valuable treasure that we possess we must agree that it is our soul, for it is eternal. As Christians, we have placed this treasure in God's hands for safe keeping.

Isn't it wonderful to know that God is watching over our treasure at all times? And we shall never be disappointed over finding that a thief has come in unaware and stolen this precious treasure.

Our treasure has been sealed (Eph. 1:13) a lot stronger than with man-made mortar; we are being kept by the power of God (1 Pet. 1:5); and God left us an earnest (a guarantee) that our treasure is safe. That earnest is the Holy Spirit (Eph. 1:14).

What a peace Christians can have because we can know that (the great thief) Satan cannot get to our souls.

Bruce Hill is publisher, Holmes County Herald, Lexington.

## Acts Network

Friday, Sept. 12

3:00 p.m. Encore Theatre: "Medicine Man," plus Laff movie 13 "Engineer's Daughter" (1930). Jack Benny and Berry Brodson. Jack plays a road show player and con man in this early talkie-comedy.

5:00 p.m. Gigglesnort Hotel: The hotel is glamorously invaded by two Shakespearean actresses from New York who insist that Dirty Dragon be their new Romeo.

6:00 p.m. Life Today: Guests today are Gordon Laux, talking about prison ministry, and John and Leigh Blizzard sing "Savior Like A Shepherd Lead Us" and "Jesus Paid It All."

### Revival Results

Faith Memorial, Poplarville: Aug. 10-15; Kenny Peavy, Edna Church, Columbia, evangelist; 17 conversions; three letters moved.

First, Polkville: Paul Wilson, pastor, evangelist; Ed Sudduth, minister of music, Central, Brookhaven, music evangelist; 19 public decisions.

If you will combine common sense and the Golden Rule, you will have very little bad luck.

The descent to failure is greased with the slime of indifference.

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September 11, 1986